

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 9 to 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Dreschau and also by DE 4232635. Claims 2, 5, 7, 8, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested in view of the following comments, and allowance of all the claims respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The present invention uses a counteracting device to force the roller in a direction opposite the direction of the force caused by the web. By using the controller to maintaining the roller in a certain position via the counteracting device, the force on the counteracting device provides a measurement of the tension on the web. This is described clearly in the specification at page 4, lines 7 to 27 for example.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the controller is “connected to the counteracting device for measuring the web tension, the controller for measuring the web tension and maintaining the roller in the first position.”

The controller is thus the element which measures the web tension via the counteracting device and is clearly recited in claim 1.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1 and its dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Rejection to Claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 9 to 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Dreschau and also by DE 4232635. Claims 2, 5, 7, 8, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Dreschau uses double-armed rotatable rocker 3 with rollers 7, 8 for maintaining a tension. A sensor 5 measures the angular displacement of the rocker 3 about its axis. The angular displacement is a function of the web tension. A drive 17 is then used to restore the tension to a

desired setpoint. (See col. 4, line 39 et seq. of Dreschau, for example). Springs 11, 12 provide counterforces on the rocker 3.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a web tension measurement device comprising:

a roller for contacting a web of material, the roller having an axis of rotation, the axis being moveable in a first direction by the web and having a first position;

a counteracting device connected to the roller, the counteracting device forcing the roller in a second direction opposite the first direction; and

a controller connected to the counteracting device for measuring the web tension, the controller for measuring the web tension and maintaining the roller in the first position.

Dreschau uses counteracting springs 11, 12 connected to the roller for forcing the roller in a direction opposite the direction of the web. The springs 11, 12 permit the roller axes to move. Only then is drive 17, which is not connected to the rollers, used. The control 21 thus does not “maintain the roller in the first position” in Dreschau as now claimed, as the rocker 3 of Dreschau must rotate against the spring action, and only then does the control 21 use drive 17 separate from the rollers to restore the setpoint.

DE 42 32 635 describes a method for regulating foil tension with a swiveling lever having a roller. A full translation of DE 42 32 635 is submitted herewith to clarify that the swiveling lever of DE 42 32 635 is a dancer roller that changes positions depending on foil tension. (See, e.g., [0014] of the translation). Also, there is no counteracting device, as the motor moves the lever.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1 and 10, and their dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 103 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the present application is now in condition for allowance,
and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,

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